

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

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JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, SA

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO ARAB/ISRAELI FIGHTING

1. TOP BILLING GIVEN SADAT SPEECH IN TODAY'S HEADLINES: EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL FOR PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST - EGYPTIAN MISSILES READY FOR LAUNCHING IN RESPONSE TO ENEMY RAIDS ON CIVILIAN TARGETS - SADAT AFFIRMS DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE STRUGGLE TO RECOVER LEGITIMATE ARAB RIGHTS - COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ARAB TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967 CONDITIONAL TO CEASEFIRE.

2. SAG IMPOSED NEWS VOID ON U.S. RESUPPLY OPERATION TO ISRAEL STILL VERY MUCH IN EFFECT. EVEN WIRE SERVICES COVERING SADAT'S SPEECH CONTAINED NO REFERENCES TO HIS CRITICAL REMARKS ON RESUPPLY DECISION, INDICATING, NO DOUBT, CENSOR'S EDITORIAL PREROGATIVE.

3. FRONT PAGES CONTINUE CARRY HEADLINES ARAB VICTORIES ON BOTH FRONTS: SYRIAN FORCES CRUSH ENEMY IN GOLAN - UNCLASSIFIED

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ANNIHILATION OF ENEMY FORCES INFILTRATING WEST BANK OF

CANAL.

4. ONLY NOTEWORTHY EDITORIAL APPEARED IN AL NADWA, INSPIRED BY SADAT SPEECH: "THE WHOLE WORLD YESTERDAY HEARD THE STRONG AND DETERMINED RESPONSE TO THE ENEMY'S ALLEGATIONS THAT THE ARABS REJECTED PEACE WHEN MEIR CALLED FOR A CEASEFIRE AND NEGOTIATIONS. THE ARAB ANSWER HAS UNDERMINED THE ENEMY'S MANEUVERS AND MANIFESTED TO THE WORLD THE JUST REASONING OF THE ARABS BASED ON RIGHTEOUSNESS. YES, WE ARE PREPARED TO STOP FIGHTING AND TO START NEGOTIATIONS, BUT, ON THE BASIS OF PROMPT ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL ARAB OCCUPIED LANDS, AND THE INSURANCE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S RIGHTS. THE WORLD SHOULD REMEMBER THAT WHAT THE ARABS ARE FOR TODAY, AND FOR WHICH SAKE THEY ARE WADING THROUGH A WAR, IS NOTHING MORE THAN THE ELIMINATION OF AGGRESSION AND THE RESTORATION OF RIGHTS BY THE PROPRIETORS THEREOF...THOSE POWERS BACKING THE ISRAELI AGGRESSIONS AGAINST THE WORLD WIDE CONSENSUS, UNDOUBTEDLY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HAMPER THE ARABS' MARCH TOWARDS VICTORY."

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